

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re: Patent Application of :  
 Stumler et al. : Group Art Unit:  
 :  
 Serial No.: : Examiner:  
 :  
 Filed: Herewith :  
 :  
 For: DISPENSING MACHINE WITH :  
 PORTION CONTROL :  
 :

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*W. Scott Carson*

W. Scott Carson, Reg. No. 27,292

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Patent Application  
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1, delete lines 2-17 and insert therefor:

**-- RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a U.S. national filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 and claims the benefit of PCT International Patent Application Serial No. PCT/US00/11743 filed April 26, 2000, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No.